

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 16-19, and amend claim 1, as shown below in the detailed listing of all claims which are, or were, in this application:

1. (Currently amended) A matrix band, comprising fibers and a matrix, at least a portion of said matrix being at least partially uncured and partly cured, said matrix band having a thickness ranging from 0.05 to 1.5 mm, said matrix band consisting of a substantially cylindrical band adapted to encircle a single tooth.
2. (Previously presented) Matrix band according to claim 1, wherein a portion of said matrix is in a cured form.
3. (Previously presented) Matrix band according to claim 1 wherein said matrix is selected from the group consisting of methyl methacrylate, hydroxyethyl methacrylate, urethan dimethacrylate, triethylene glycol dimethacrylate, 2,2-bis(4-(2-hydroxy-3-methacryloxy)phenyl)propane, polymethyl methacrylate, starburst methacrylated polyesters, hyperbranched methacrylated polyesters and mixtures thereof.

4. (Previously presented) Matrix band according to claim 1, wherein said fibers are selected from the group consisting of inert glass fibers, bioactive glass fibers, silica fibers, quartz fibers, ceramic fibers, carbon/graphite fibers, aramid fibers, ceramic fibers, poly(p-phenylene-2,6-benzobisoxazole) fibers, poly(2,6-diimidazo(4,5-b4',5'-e)pyridinylene-1,4(2,5-dihydro)phenylene fibers, polyolefin fibers, fibers prepared from copolymers of olefins, polyester fibers, polyamide fibers, polyacrylic fibers, sol-gel processed silica fibers, collagen fibers, cellulose fibers, modified cellulose fibers and mixtures thereof.

5. (Previously presented) Matrix band according to claim 1, wherein said fibers are in the form of continuous fibers, chopped fibers, mat, sheet or mixtures thereof, and wherein they are oriented in one, two, three or four directions, randomly or mixtures thereof.

6. (Previously presented) Matrix band according to claim 1, wherein it further comprises particulate filler material.

7. (Previously presented) Matrix band according to claim 6, wherein said particulate filler material is selected from the group consisting of inert glass, bioactive glass, metal oxides, ceramics, polymers and mixtures thereof.

8. (Previously presented) A dental restoration kit comprising a matrix band according to claim 1, a restorative dental composite and an adhesive.

9. (Previously presented) Kit according to claim 8, wherein it further comprises an applicator device.

Claims 10-19 (Canceled).